

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Office Action of August 2, 2004. In particular, Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication the Claims 20-25, 27-28, 34-35, 56-64, 70-71, 92-100, 106-107 and 110 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have incorporated the recitations of Claims 18 and 20, 54 and 56, 90 and 92 and 110 into independent Claims 1, 37, 73 and 109, respectively, and, therefore, submit that Independent Claims 1, 37, 73 and 109 and the claims that depend therefrom are in condition for allowance. Claims 18, 20, 54, 56, 90, 92 and 110 have been canceled from the present application. Applicants have amended the dependent claims to change dependencies on canceled claims. Applicants have also removed the phrase "securely operably" from the claims and, therefore, submit that the objections with respect to this phrase in the claims has been obviated. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed herein.

The "Related Inventions" Section has Been Amended

In response to the objection to the "Related Inventions" section on page 1 of the specification, Applicants have amended the section to provide the corresponding issued U.S. patent numbers and serial number where available. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection relating thereto has been overcome.

The Hyperlinks Have Been Removed and Trademarks Usage Has Been Amended

In the specification at page 4, line 16 and page 29, line 7, the hyperlinks have been changed by removing "http:\\\" from the hyperlinks, so that there no longer are executable hyperlinks in the specification. Moreover, the specification has been reviewed and amended for proper usage of trademarks as appropriate. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification is accurate and complete.

Claim Amendments

Many of the method claims have been amended to eliminate recitations of "step" and many of the computer program product claims have been amended to eliminate "means" language.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 7, 9, 37, 43, 73, 79 and 109 stand objected to due to the use of the phrase "securely operably." These claims and others have been amended to remove this phrase. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the objections with respect to these claims has been obviated.

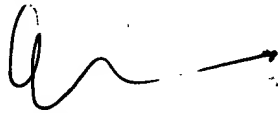
Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 20-25, 27-28, 34-35, 56-64, 70-71, 92-100, 106-107 and 110 have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have incorporated the recitations of Claims 18 and 20 into Claim 1, Claims 54 and 56 into Claim 37, Claims 90 and 92 into Claim 73 and Claim 110 into Claim 109. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Independent Claims 1, 37, 73 and 109 are patentable as containing subject matter indicated as allowable and that the dependent claims are patentable at least per the patentability of the independent base claims from which they depend. Applicants have canceled Claims 18, 20, 54, 56, 90, 92 and 110 from the present application. Accordingly, Applicants have placed the present application in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested in due course.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested in due course. Favorable examination and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested. It is not believed that any extension of time is required for this paper. However, in the event that an extension of time is necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this paper may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth A. Stanek
Registration No. 48,568

USPTO Customer No. 46589
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone: 919/854-1400
Facsimile: 919/854-1401